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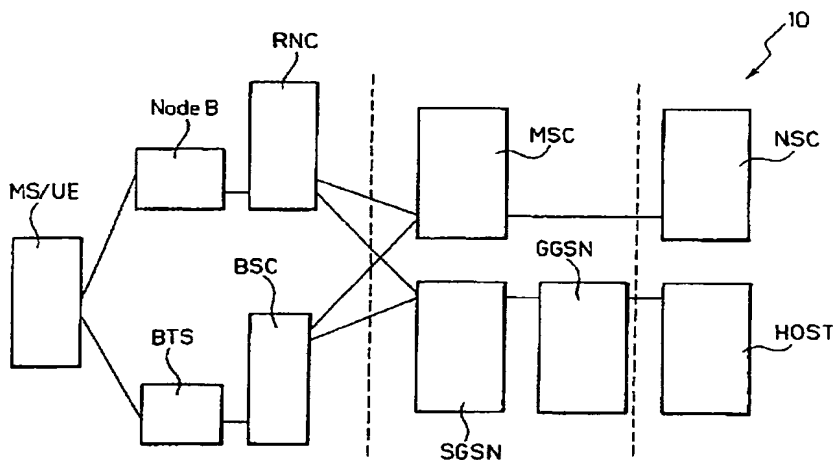
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD FOR SIMULATING COMMUNICATION NETWORKS, RELATED SIMULATOR, COMMUNICATION NETWORK, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT



(57) Abstract: A communication network is simulated with a simulator (10) with object based architecture (12, 13), in which each object (13) represents the model of a network device. The simulated network is capable of corresponding to a plurality of different systems, such as GSM, GPRS, UMTS, WLAN, fixed networks. At the simulator level, the physical devices of the network are subdivided into: a first set of devices (NSC, HOST), completely independent of the system that regulates the operation of the network, the operation of the devices of said first set thus being independent of said system, a second set of devices (MS/UE, NodeB, RNC, BTS, BSC) which depend on the system under consideration, the operation of the devices included in said second set thus being specific for the system under consideration, a third set of devices (MSC, SGSN, GGSN) for the inter-work between said first set and said second set, the devices of said third set being able to interact with said devices independent of the system under consideration and with said devices which do depend on the system under consideration.

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